Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What I want to say is that there is a suspicion, it may be unmerited, that inconvenient questions are often left unanswered or kept pending for a long time.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I have very clearly stated that the expenditure and the labour involved are the only facts that stand in the way of Government in publishing these.

President.—I may even say that many among these 709 questions would have been repeated during this year and information also supplied by Government.

You may take it from me that there is no wilful delay either on the part of the Government or the Heads of Departments to furnish answers to questions. In fact every endeavour is being made to furnish answers to questions. Even though very many of these questions are inconvenient and entail a great deal of labour, we take the trouble of answering them. We do not suppress any on the ground that they are inconvenient.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Always publicity is a very effective weapon. Even assuming that there are some inconvenient questions which certain Heads of Departments are not willing enough to answer,and if those questions are published in the list of unanswered questions, they will be brought to book eventually. So this publicity will operate as a sort of preventive. It is for that that I ask that a few rupees, two or three rupees, may be spent to publish these questions rather than keep them back.

President.—Those questions, which were not answered and which lapsed by reason of the session coming to a close, can be repeated. All these questions come again for answer. Probably, if you examine the list, many of these questions would have been repeated and answered subsequently.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—If it is not prohibitive, then it might be published.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No Head of a Department can suppress a question.

310. Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Will the Government consider the advisability of publishing in the Government Gazette or placing on the Table of this Council, all questions not answered up-to-date and more than thirty days old?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Government regret that they cannot comply with the request.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I suppose the same reason is alleged for not publishing them. I have only asked to place on the Table such questions as are not answered up to date and that are more than thirty days old. I suppose the reasons are the same.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Yes.

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